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NOTE

Synonymy of Some Eastern North American Species of *Apatania* (Trichoptera: Apataniidae)

Apatania incerta was described by Banks (1897) as *Enoicyla incerta*, based on examples from Sherbrooke, Canada, Franconia, N.H., and Sea Cliff, N.Y. Ross (1938) designated and illustrated a male lectotype from the Sea Cliff locality. Schmid (1953, 1954) produced a world wide revision of the family (then a subfamily), illustrating both sexes, recording it from Canada to Virginia and west to Wisconsin, and transferring the species to *Apatania* Kolenati. More recently Morse (1971) described two species, *A. rossi* and *A. praevolans* from North Carolina, and South Carolina and Tennessee, respectively. Sykora and Weaver (1978) described *A. blacki* from western Pennsylvania. The illustrations of the male genitalia of all these species show virtually no differences. Chen (1992) produced a key purported to distinguish between the larvae of *A. incerta*, *A. blacki*, and *A. praevolans*. I have used this key with the few larvae available and find those determined as *A. blacki* and *A. praevolans* are identical, but there does seem to be a difference between this pair and the larvae of *A. incerta* in the shape and setation of the ninth tergite. However, very little material is available and virtually none has been reared rendering this factor inconclusive at a specific level.

Working with adults on the Trichoptera of Virginia, I was puzzled by identifications of what seemed to be *A. incerta* as *A. rossi*, *A. praevolans* and *A. rossi X praevolans*. In an attempt to clarify their status I visited the Museum of Comparative Zoology and studied the lectotype of *A. incerta*, comparing it to examples from southern Connecticut (the nearest locality I had to Sea Cliff, Long Island, NY), and various examples from Virginia, including some identified as *A. rossi* and *A. praevolans*. Purportedly these species differ in the lengths and shapes of a series of processes from the tenth tergum of the male genitalia. However, I found a great deal of variation in the length, width, curvature and apical shape of these processes from specimen to specimen and even from one side to the other. The lectotype of *A. incerta* was more nearly identical to some examples from Virginia identified as *A. rossi* than the one from Connecticut. Schmid (1953, 1954) even illustrated a variation in the tenth tergum of this species and variants of this structure in another widespread species, *A. zonella* (Zetterstedt). Considering the overall similarity and seeming plasticity in detail of the tenth tergum and identity in other parts of the male genitalia, I am formally proposing the **new synonymy** of *Apatania blacki* Sykora and Weaver, 1978, *A. praevolans* Morse, 1971, and *A. rossi* Morse, 1971, with *A. incerta* (Banks, 1897).

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